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SENATOR WICKERSHAM: If we could pass over that and take up section 4.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Section 3 is passed over. Are there any objections to it? It is so ordered.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Wickersham would move to amend with the fourth component of the committee amendments, FA946, I believe, is it not? (Legislative Journal page 1153.)

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: I believe that is correct, Mr. Clerk.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Wickersham to open.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. President, members of the body, this portion of the committee amendments is the base broadening portion that was recommended to you by the Revenue Committee. You can see that in the page 4 of the handout. We have had...and that's all I am going to say about that. The committee believes that base broadening in the sales tax base is appropriate. It is a policy initiative that we need to undertake. I think I indicated earlier today that we have perhaps a higher sales tax rate than we would otherwise have to have because we have substantially a narrow tax base in relationship to neighboring states. That's for the sales tax base. So the committee was more than willing to recommend to you, and this is an issue that Senator Brashear has advocated for many years, and I think he will have something to say on this topic, that we do, indeed, broaden the sales tax base. So that's the...that's the proposal that you see in this portion of the committee amendment. However, let me start the discussion about where we will go from here. I have filed an amendment to this portion of the committee amendments which combines another element. Not only would it have a broadening of the sales tax base, but it would also contain a partial rollback of the 1997 income tax reduction. In other words, the amendment that will come along shortly, and we'll ask you to approve, would have two components in it; one, a partial rollback, a one-half rollback of the 1997 income tax reduction and, secondly, a base broadening for the sales tax base, and I'm have...I have a sheet